



Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School
NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 06/05/2022

Diary Dates – Week A

School day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
9-12/5/22	Yr6 SATS week
13/5/22	Yr8 Visit Thorpe Park
13/5/22	Edwinstree Spring Disco (ESA afterschool event)
16-20/5/22	Walk to School Week
16-20/22	Year 8 CATS at Freman
17/5/22	Yr6 Parent Consultation Foundation Subjects 4-6pm
18/5/22	Yr5 Visit Science Museum
30/5/22 – 3/06/22	HALF TERM
14/6/22	Yr7 Parent Consultation Foundation Subjects 4-6pm
22/6/22	Yr5 Felixstowe visit
23/6/22	Yr7 Felixstowe visit
24/6/22	INSET Day
27/6/22	Occasional Day
28/6/22	Yr8 Parent Consultation Foundation Subjects 4-6pm
8/7/22	Yr6 visit Felixstowe
11/7/22	Yr8 visit Felixstowe
13//7/22	Open afternoon 2pm-7pm
13/7/22	Yr6 Theatre Trip to see Wicked
22/7/22	End of term 1:20pm finish
28-30/9/22	3 Day Residential Trip for Yr7 (current Yr6) more details to follow

How do I report my child absent?

If your child is unwell or has a medical appointment, please notify the Attendance Team via attendance@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk or you can leave a message on 01763-271446. In the event your child tests positive for Covid-19, please email: covid@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

What are Foundation Parents Evenings? Foundation subjects are those that do not form part of the Core subjects - English, Maths, and Science. We are returning to our tried and tested method of parents evenings prior to COVID for all foundation subjects.

This week we launched with the Yr5 parents evening, we were so pleased to invite parents into school to take a tour with their child, look at their books, and talk to their foundation teachers. Thank you for those parents that took the time to come in and share in your child's first year progress and successes. Below is a link to a survey that we would ask you to complete about the event itself. This is for Parent/Carers that did and did not attend as there are a different set of questions for both. It should take no more than 5-10 minutes to complete, depending on the feedback you give us. This will help us shape future evenings as we go forward.
<https://forms.office.com/r/mE5ASVbrYA>

When is Year 6 Science and Foundation Parents Evening and what is happening?

This will take place on Tuesday 17th May, running from 4pm until 6pm. Unlike the Maths and English evenings, there are no booked appointments. You come to school at any time between 4pm and 6pm and it is an opportunity for your child to take you to their classrooms and show you what they have been doing this year. Class teachers will be in classrooms to answer any questions you may have about the subject or their learning. If you feel you may need a longer conversation with a subject teacher, you will be able to leave your contact details on the way out.

When will we receive last term's data reports?

They are on the way to you via students on Monday and Tuesday of next week. We will Parentmail you to confirm they have been given out to your child.

Fun Swim Sessions - Who has an opportunity to swim next week?

As a result of the Best T-Shirt Design Competition for Fullness Day, the winners have been awarded a fun swim on Monday 9th May at Freman Pool, a link via Parentmail will be sent to relevant Parent/Carers to give consent. On the 16th Ms Theroude's year 8 class will have an opportunity to swim based around their reducing food waste, worm warrior work.

ESA Event - School Disco

The first event will be a Spring Disco next Friday the 13th of May, please find attached flyer. The event will be from 6.30pm to 8.30pm at a cost of £5 via School Gateway. Please also give your consent by using the following link <https://forms.office.com/r/6ME5nNBa82>. Drinks and small baskets of sweets will be on sale during the event, also a pre-loved uniform sale will take place on the night of the disco, should parents wish to have a browse. All proceeds will of course go towards ESA fundraising. If you are willing to support the event along with staff and the ESA – please email us on admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

PSHE Year 6

Earlier in the year we included a planned schedule for PSHE lessons. Although we do change it to some extent to meet the needs of our students, we wanted to include it again so you have an idea of lessons that are coming up. In particular, Y6 parents should be aware that we have just started the "Health and Wellbeing 2" lessons which will shortly include some work on puberty and body image.

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Mini Police

The first group of mini police graduated this Thursday having performed to Years 5 and 6 a presentation on what they have been doing and what they have learnt. Students will be able to sign up from Monday to a second group, which will take place after Half Term on Friday's after school. The club will explore antisocial behaviour, internet use and speeding in Buntingford. They will have an opportunity to work with several of PCO's to explore the issues and support the police in sending positive messages about how to stay safe within our community.

Orchestra - Friday 13th May

There will be no Orchestra on Friday 13th May

Art Club Wednesday 18th May

There will be no Art club on Wednesday 18th May

Food and Nutrition

Year 5 - Well done to **5C and 5D** who cooked fabulous pizza dishes this week. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed themselves whilst creating a pizza they had designed.

5A and 5B please remember correct footwear, homework design and ingredients for your dishes next week.

Year 6: 6C please remember your ingredients and correct footwear. **6A, 6B and 6D** there is no cooking next week.

Year 7: 7A and 7D you will be making your bread rolls on Monday - remember your ingredients and correct footwear. **7C and 7B** you will be cooking your spaghetti Bolognese on Tuesday - please remember your ingredients and correct footwear.

Year 8: 8A, 8B and 8C you will be creating gingerbread biscuits - please remember your ingredients and correct footwear. **8D** no cooking this week.

Please also ensure you are bringing in suitable containers to take your completed products home in. I am starting to run out of sweet tubs - if you have borrowed one of my containers and not returned it, please return it. If Parent/Carers have any empty sweet tubs looking for a new home, I would be very grateful if they were sent into the school. All ingredient lists are on Satchel One. Many thanks, Mrs van Wyk.

Information from County:

COVID-19 Vaccination Expanded to all 5-11 Year Olds

From this week parents and carers of children aged 5 to 11 can book their child's first COVID-19 vaccination.

Bookings can be made at the national booking service for some pharmacies and GP surgeries as well as weekend

appointments at vaccination centres. Some GP surgeries will also be offering bookings directly. Vaccination centres have been made child friendly with a range of fun activities available and staff have decorated the centres to make them welcoming for children. Appointment slots have been made longer so that parents and carers have plenty of time to talk to vaccinators and ask questions. We would be grateful if you could share this with your parents and carers so they know, should they wish to vaccinate their children. To find out more, go to <https://covid.healthierfuture.org.uk/vaccine-information-for-young-people>

Year group updates:

Year 5:

Goodbye for now Year 5! It has been my pleasure to work with you this year and I know you will continue to flourish and grow as you end this year and join Year 6. Thank you for all your kind wishes to myself and family. I leave you in the capable hands of Mr Kelly who has been getting to know you all over the last few weeks. Keep on making me proud and I look forward to baby meeting you all!

Mrs Kelly

Year 6:

SATs 2022

Our Year 6 students have worked unbelievably hard this year and we all hope they will reap the rewards. We continue to notice an upturn in students' resilience, and they are willing to give their all. The hardest work is done and students should feel proud of their progress. Key messages to give students this weekend is to have fun and relax. Please ensure that students get a good nights' sleep this weekend and arrive at school refreshed on Monday. In school we be using our mantra: 'It's a test, don't be stressed; just relax and do your best.' Students should come to school with their usual equipment. They can drop their bags off in their tutor rooms and then come to the hall. Students can wear PE kit on Monday to Thursday so they can be as comfortable as possible. If you have any worries or concerns, you can email Miss Devonshire at k.devonshire@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk.

If your child is unwell on any day during SATs week, we are able to apply for an adapted timetable to allow them to sit tests when they are well enough. If this is the case, your child must not mix with any students who have taken the tests, from this school or any other.

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Please see the SATs timetable below for details about what your child will be doing each day. Students should arrive in school at 8.30 to get a snack and settle in the hall.

Monday 9 May 2022 English grammar, punctuation and spelling papers 1 and 2

Tuesday 10 May 2022 English reading

Wednesday 11 May 2022 Mathematics papers 1 and 2

Thursday 12 May 2022 Mathematics paper 3

A huge thank you to all of you who have offered your support during the exams, please meet Miss Devonshire in reception at 8.15 on the first day if you are down to volunteer for a short briefing and Q and A session.

On Friday we have an enrichment day planned for students as a well done. Don't forget about the school disco on Friday 13th May too!

Year 7:

A big well done to Year 7, who were a pleasure to take out and to tour Whippsnade Zoo. We found out lots of fascinating facts through the Animal talks, we also had time to spend in the large outdoor park. We are excited about our Seaside trip on Thursday 23rd June to Felixstowe, more information will be sent out before the end of term. We are now looking to secure a residential trip next year.

Year 8:

Our Thorpe Park trip is taking place next Friday 13th May, students are looking at energy transfers on the roller coasters. They also thoroughly deserve some fun to reward them for all their hard work in Science this year. If your child is eligible for free school meals, please order lunch by Wednesday 11th May, a cold option will be available to order via Schoolgrid.

Attached is a message from Ms Loughran the Head at Freman College, explaining that as part of their entry process they would like this year for your child to sit Cognitive ability tests called CATS, the letter outlines the reasons why. These tests will take place in their normal German lessons in the week beginning 18th of May, students will be required to attend Freman for two hours to complete. To support them they will be given a break and a snack at Freman.

We will be letting students know that this is happening on Monday next week in the school COWO time and reassuring them, that this does not require revision or worry.

If your child is a vulnerable child we will be talking to you about how we might best support your child to complete or withdraw. We will phone you next week to have this discussion.

**Jo Gant
Headteacher**

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